



Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs

# Joint Executive Council for Veterans Organizations

5 June 2019

Update presented by  
Brig Gen (Ret) Benjamin F. Adams, III  
Commissioner

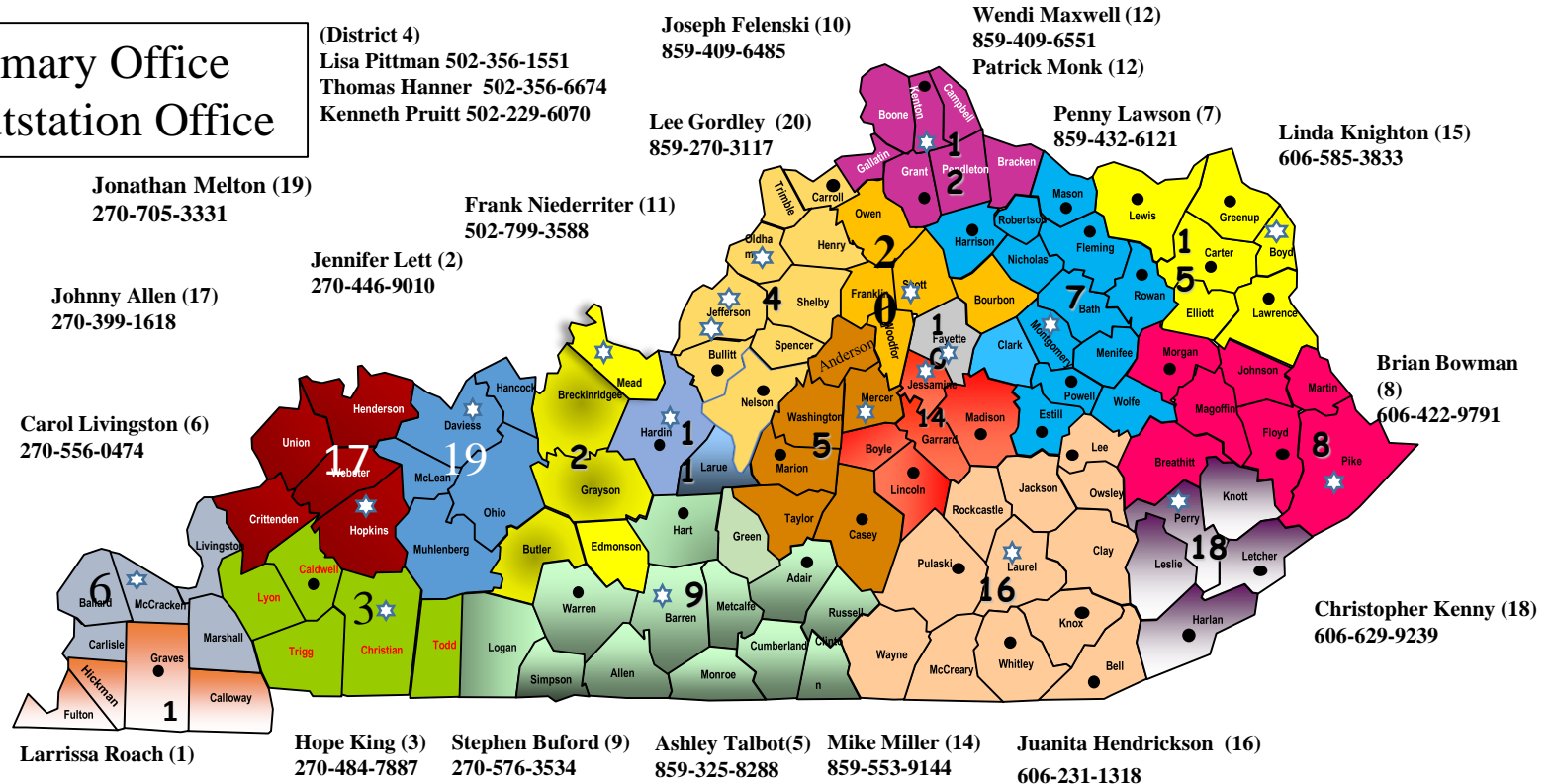
# Agenda

- Veterans Benefits Branch/Field Operations
- State Veteran Centers (Nursing Homes)
- State Veteran Cemeteries
- Homeless Veterans Program
- Women Veterans Program
- KyVETS
- Veterans Program Trust Fund
- Legislative Update
- Events & News

# KDVA Benefits Branch Field Offices

## 22 Field Representatives in 19 Districts

- ★ Primary Office
- Outstation Office



# Veteran Centers

As of 1 June 2019



Thomson-Hood Veterans Center, Wilmore, KY  
165/285, 58%



Western Kentucky Veterans Center, Hanson, KY  
88/156, 56%



Radcliff Veterans Center, Radcliff KY  
65/120 54%



Eastern Kentucky Veterans Center, Hazard, KY  
108/120 90%



# Veterans Cemeteries

As of 1 June 2019



## Kentucky Veterans Cemetery West



Opened March 1, 2004

### Interments:

Veterans	3,195
Dependents	<u>1,182</u>
Total	4,377
Cremated	1,263

## Kentucky Veterans Cemetery Central



Opened June 1, 2007

### Interments:

Veterans	5,102
Dependents	<u>1,258</u>
Total	6,360
Cremated	1,971

## Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North



Opened August 22, 2008

### Interments:

Veterans	1,450
Dependents	<u>322</u>
Total	1,772
Cremated	685



## Kentucky Veterans Cemetery North East



Opened October 1, 2010

### Interments:

Veterans	873
Dependents	<u>190</u>
Total	1,063
Cremated	319

## Kentucky Veterans Cemetery South East



Opened May 1, 2018

### Interments:

Veterans	22
Dependents	<u>4</u>
Total	26
Cremated	9

**Total : 13,598**



# Homeless Veterans Program



- Construction begins on Saturday June 8, 2019 on the newest project for Operation Victory. The home is located at 3805 Parthenia Ave in Louisville. Completion expected by September 2019.
- Accepting applications from homeless veterans for the next 2 homes through Operation Victory.
- Continuing to provide financial assistance for veterans to prevent homelessness or help them become housed.
- Homeless Veteran Program Coordinator is Eileen Ward, (502) 564-9203, email [eileen.ward@ky.gov](mailto:eileen.ward@ky.gov)



# Homeless Veterans Program

## Financial Assistance



### FY 2018 (1 Jul 17-30 Jun 18)

Total assistance paid out	\$74,162.61
Avg. per veteran	\$219.00
Veterans assisted with Housing	208
Veterans assisted with Utilities	<u>130</u>
Total veterans assisted	338

### FY 2019 (1 Jul 18 to Present)

Total assistance paid out	\$56,255.87
Avg. per veteran	\$242.48
Veterans assisted with housing	117
Veterans assisted with Utilities	115
Total veterans assisted	232



# Women Veterans Program



- Email address: [women.veterans@ky.gov](mailto:women.veterans@ky.gov)
- April Brown is acting program manager for Women Veterans Program. Can be reached via cell 502-234-4854
  - Please share any women veterans events with KDVA for us to post on our web page and social media
- Planning Women Veterans Conference for November 2019



# Employment Support Program



## KyVets Veteran Services:

- Resume review and update
- Referral to employers
- Referral to other resources
- Education & Training
- HireKy website & App (<https://login.bfacmobile.com/m/hireky>)

Kentucky  
Veteran  
Employment,  
Training, and  
Support  
(KyVets)

## KyVets Employer Services:

- Education on why hiring veterans is good business
- Matching veterans skills and experience to employer needs
- Free advertisement of positions
- Top talent referrals
- HireKy website & App (<https://login.bfacmobile.com/m/hireky>)



New KyVETS Program Coordinator is April Brown

(502) 564-9203, email [april.brown@ky.gov](mailto:april.brown@ky.gov) or [kyvets@ky.org](mailto:kyvets@ky.org)



# Veterans Program Trust Fund



## 13 March 2019 Meeting

- 10 Grant Applicants
- 10 Grants Approved

Total Obligated \$196,525

## Next Meeting 12 June 2019

- 11 Grant Applicants
- Suspense for grant applications was 13 May 2019



# Legislative Update



- Property Tax Exemption for Veteran Service Organizations
  - HB 153: The version that KDVA drafted was sent to A & R where it DIED
  - ACTION NEEDED: VSOs need to contact their legislators.
  - KDVA sent the “preferred” bill draft to DJ Johnson for next session
- Fee Free License Plate for 100% Disabled Veterans
  - HB 277: Extends free plate to those NOT 100% but paid at 100% rate. Died in Transportation Committee.
  - ACTION NEEDED: **Deputy Commissioner, Chief of Staff, and General Counsel met May 17 with Transportation key players (Brian Ingle, Godwin Onodu, and Ainsley Snyder) and established important bridge for next legislative session.**
  - **Next meeting: July 26**
- Exempt 100% of a Veteran’s Military Pension from State Income Tax
  - HB 66, HB 58, and HB 15: All died in A & R.
  - ACTION NEEDED: FULL COURT PRESS REP. MOORE AND CONTACTS IN A & R.
- Nurse Student Load Repayment Program
  - HB 296: Signed by Governor Bevin.
  - Next Session: ABR to fund program.
  - Effective Date: 1 January 2020
  - Anticipated first payout: 2021 after one year of satisfactory performance
- Clarify the Veterans Preference Law to Include Veteran Spouses
  - HB 338: Signed by the Governor.
- Amend Current State and Local Rescue Law to Include Green Alerts
  - SB 55: Signed by the Governor.



# Events & News

## (June)



- 3 June 19: Governor Bevin Signing Bills, including Nurses Tuition
- 5 June 19: Groundbreaking for Gold Star Family Monument
- 6 June 19: Bravo Zulu WWII Veterans Appreciation
- 7 June 19: WWII Veteran Appreciation Flight
- 7 June 19: French Legion of Honor Presentation to Alvin Perry at THVC
- 8 June 19: VFW Department of Kentucky State Convention
- 8 June 19: Demolition Day for Third Operation Victory House
- 10 June 19: KY Habitat for Humanity Award Ceremony
- 12 June 19: Veterans Program Trust Fund Meeting



# Events & News

## (July)



- 18 June 19: KCMA Executive Committee Meeting
- 20 June 19: VEAC Meeting
- 20-23 June 19: American Legion Department of Kentucky State Convention
- 21 June 19: DAV Annual State Convention
- 27 June 19: VEAC Meeting
- 4 July 19: Independence Day
- 11, 18, and 25 July 19: VEAC Meeting
- 6 August 19: Kentucky Veterans Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony
- July 11-16 National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Louisville





Questions?